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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/743,690	05/11/2001	John Tane Christeller	020829-000100US	7473

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EXAMINER

KUBELIK, ANNE R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1638

DATE MAILED: 08/09/2002

12

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/743,690

Applicant(s)

CHRISTELLER ET AL.

Examiner

Anne Kubelik

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions that are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, Applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-8, 21, 32-33 and 43-47, drawn to a chimeric protein comprising a vacuolar targeting sequence and a plant-noxious pest control protein, compositions comprising the protein, and a method of using the protein to control pests.

Group II, claim(s) 9-15, drawn to a chimeric protein comprising a vacuolar targeting sequence and a plant-noxious pest control protein and a second protein.

Group III, claim(s) 16-20, 22-23, 31 and 53-54, drawn to nucleic acid encoding a chimeric protein comprising a vacuolar targeting sequence and a plant-noxious pest control protein, a host cell and plant transformed with the nucleic acid, a method of using the nucleic acid to produce a pest resistant plant, and a method of making the chimeric protein.

Group IV, claim(s) 24-30, drawn to a plant transformed with a nucleic acid encoding a chimeric protein comprising a vacuolar targeting sequence and a plant-noxious pest control protein and a second protein.

Group V, claim(s) 34-37 and 48-52, drawn to a method of using a chimeric protein comprising a vacuolar targeting sequence and a plant-noxious pest control protein and a second pest control protein to control pests, and a composition comprising the two proteins.

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Group VI, claim(s) 38-42, drawn to a method of controlling pests on a transgenic plant by treating the plant with a composition comprising a pest control protein.

The inventions listed as Groups I-VI do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: They do not constitute an advance over the prior art.

The technical feature shared by the groups is a chimeric protein comprising a vacuolar targeting sequence and a plant-noxious pest control protein or a nucleic acid encoding such a chimeric protein. Raikhel (1994, US Patent 5,360,726) teaches chimeric proteins comprising a vacuolar targeting sequence and lectin and a nucleic acid encoding such a chimeric gene (columns 11-12); the instant specification states that lectin is a plant-noxious pest control protein (pg 12, lines 17-23). Additionally, Boller et al (US Patent 6,054,637, filed October, 1994) suggest using chimeric proteins comprising a vacuolar targeting sequence and a plant-noxious pest control protein in the control of plant pests (column 3, lines 9-14).

Thus, the technical feature shared by the groups is not novel, and claim 1, among others, is not novel.

2. If Applicant elects one of groups I, III or VI, Applicant is additionally required to elect a single plant-noxious pest control protein from those listed in the claims included in each group. If Applicant elects one of groups II, IV or V, Applicant is additionally required to elect a single plant-noxious pest control protein and a single second protein from those listed in the claims included in each group.

Upon election of a Group, Applicant is additionally required to select a single nucleotide sequence and corresponding amino acid sequence for said Group. This requirement is not to be construed as a requirement for an election of species, since each nucleotide and amino acid sequence is not a member of single genus of invention, but constitutes an independent and patentably distinct invention.

3. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anne R. Kubelik, whose telephone number is (703) 308-5059. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amy Nelson, can be reached at (703) 306-3218. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9307 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the patent analyst, Kimberly Davis, at (703) 305-3015.

Anne R. Kubelik, Ph.D.
July 31, 2002



AMY J. NELSON, PH.D.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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